## **CEREMONY PURELY** AN AMERICAN ONE

Through Lapse of Years Inauguration Custom Has Remained Unchanged

## CEREMONIES FROM WASHINGTON TO TAFT

First President, to a Large Extent, Devised the Plan of Inaugural, Which Continues to Be Carried Out in a Thoroughly Democratic

Spirit.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 27,
—History will again repeat itself next Thursday, when William Howard Taft bows his head over the Holy Bible and takes the solemn obligation which shall make him, for stated period, the Chief Magistrate

a stated period, the Chief Magistrate of the United States.

The ceremony of the induction of a President into effice is distinctly American. Conceived in the minds and hearts of the nation's fathers, while they yet were in the throes of a great revolution, it is grand in its motive—sublime in its simplicity. Through the lapse of years, since the establishment of the American government, substantially no change has been made in the ceremonial form, although elaborate and seautiful accompaniments, in recent years, have become notable features of this most important of American functions.

can functions.

In the time of Taff, as in the time of Washington, the spectacle bears the same simple impressiveness. Here no emperor, or king, or dictator, arrogating to himself, "through the law of succession or monarchial expediency," the powers of government; but the treature of a willing, enthusiastic and homogeneous people taking upon him. the powers of government; but the reactive of a willing, enthusiastic and Mid. homogeneous people taking upon himshit self, through the expression of his Roa leers, the responsibility of carrying out the light mandates and directing the exercise of the people, but chosen for a large of 160,000,000 people; to-day, yet a complete of the pople, but chosen for a large of the people, but chosen for a large of the people, but chosen for a large of the law of the respect, as in others, ar fill work has stood the test of time albert will only the large of the large

no its essential form, simple and impressive. Washington was conveyed to the Capitol in a handsome coach drawn by six white horses. His attire was notably elegant, being of black velvet, with diamond-studded buckles, silk hose and cocked hat.

Four years later John Adams was maugurated as President, also in Philadelphia. Apprehension had been expressed that the young government would be unable to withstand the strain of a change of Presidents, but the result was a superb vindication of the wisdom of the fathers. Washington passed the reins of government to his successor with the same patriotic grace and willingness and wisdom that had characterized his every public action.

dom that had characterized his every bubic action.

The real test of the government's fastitutions came four years later, when Thomas Jefferson became President. He was not elected by the people, but by the House of Representatives. The election had resulted in a tle, and the House of Representatives exercised its constitutional prerogative of choosing the President. The contest in the House was very bitter; but again the nation withsteed the strain magnificently.

First Inauguration in Washington.

magnificently.

First Inauguration in Washington.

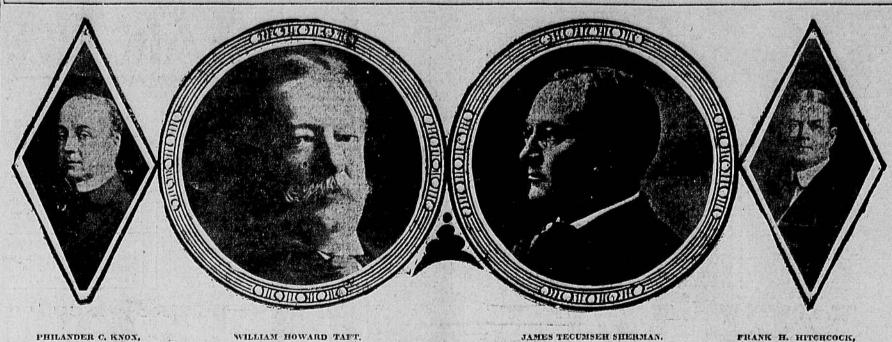
"The Sage of Monticello," as Jefferson was affectionately termed, was the first President to be inaugurated in Washington, the seat of government again having been changed. Accom-(Continued on Ninth Page.)

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In adoption, for me single and inspective employers of the proposal of the pro

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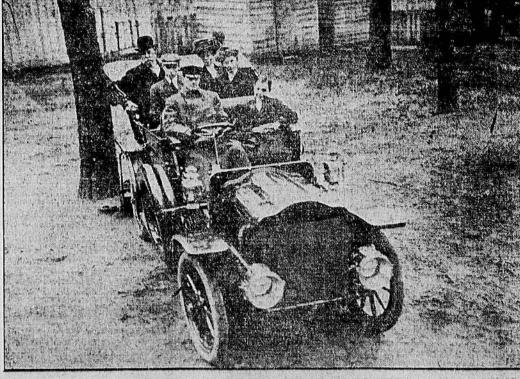
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